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STRANGE NEW NIGHTS

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The muffled cawing of a drowsy crow

Floats through the ethereal yellow mist-

Of dosing street lights in the last hours of night.

Quivering neem leaves in the whiff of a stranger breeze

Gently kiss the overhead cables, as

The languid moon intercepts the forlorn flight

Of a surreal bat. A surge of the woolly mist

Swells in magnificent froth

Approaches the restive rust and moth.

Fidgeting of the foamy silence

Thickens in the stranger lane,

Swirls around the silhouette

Sleepless against the window pane;

The stranger nights so heave and fall

In such frenzied hysteria

The mossy stupor of hanging stars

Against a saline insomnia.

The eastern skyline does writhe and squirm

Birthing of a corona

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Of a yellow, pale and alien sun

A day of slumber, sloth and fear.

Rusty trudging of tainted souls

Towards new insomniac nights

Sleepless, restive, fearful, awed

Rising gaze to heavens clear.

In such prayers that stand so still

Amidst the swirling nightly mists

That every dirty crevice fill.

The virus spreads from every heart

Thralls the lusty claws of power

Insomniac nights do fill

With new purity of intense prayer